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UNITED STATES NATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

2115 S STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C.

(202) 387-5100

MARGERY A. TABANKIN

September 10, 1971

THOMAS J. MOONEY

President

Vice-President

Free German Youth
Student Section
Unter Den Linden 36-38
Berlin W. 8
German Democratic Republic

Dear Mr. President:

Please excuse the delay since our last communication. In the past few weeks there has been a "changing of the guard" so to speak. At the 24th National Student Congress, David Ifshin presented the assembled body with a farewell address on his departure as President of the Association. Following the elections of national officers I was chosen to represent over five hundred colleges and universities in the United States.

The congressional delegates also unanimously adopted a resolution calling for an international student union conference, to convene October 13-16 in Washington, D.C. Since Mr. Ifshin's first correspondence, we have received encouraging replies from around the world.

We are convinced that the grave situation in South Vietnam, and in particular, the crisis facing Huynh Tan Mam and the South Vietnam Student Union warrants that student unions respond in solidarity- swiftly and decisively. We believe that a student union conference is one of the best instruments in aiding that kind of response.

We are therefore prepared to organize the conference, but only if every student union is convinced that such an undertaking is worthwhile. Mr. J. C. Boksenbaum from UNEF of France, Mr. Nick Grant from the United Kingdom, Mr. Huynh Tan Mam from South Vietnam and myself are strongly committed to this project; yet we are in total agreement that you should ultimately decide on its necessity.

There have been some suggestions from various student unions that because of the short time, the proposed meeting would merely be a planning meeting for a later larger conference. Other unions have recommended that only those countries that can afford to send a delegate without heavy financial assistance attend. Still others have expressed the opinion that smaller student unions could participate via cables and telegrams. WE would appreciate your responses to these notions.

The probabilities for this conference occurring, however, are based solely upon your responses. It is urgent that you inform us immediately of your intentions, resources, problems and suggestions as we are greatly pressed for time. WE are confident that you will not fail in joining with us to oppose American imperialist adventures and to support Huynh Tan Mam and the courageous leaders of the South Vietnam STUDENT Union in their struggle to end a war of American aggression and to restore peace and independence to their land.

In Solidarity,

Marge Tabankin
Marge Tabankin, President

United States National Student Association